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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: S-9

on May 15, 2003  
by [Signature]  
Katie Zarzana

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

LEWIS SHARPS et al.

Application No.: 09/676,194

Filed: September 28, 2000

For: METHODS OR REPAIRING  
DAMAGED INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

Examiner: COHEN

Art Unit: 3762

**AMENDMENT UNDER CFR 1.312**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment. This amendment is being submitted prior to payment of the issue fee (due 5/27/03) and is merely formal in nature. No substantial additional work is required on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO).